

PE2085/V: Introduce a statutory definition of residency for Fatal Accident Inquiries into the deaths of Scots abroad

Michael Marra MSP written submission, 3 February 2026

Thank you for the work the Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee has undertaken into the above petition, introduced by my constituent Mr Davy Cornock. You will know that Mr Cornock's son David died by suspected murder in Thailand in 2019 and that his family have been unable to find justice to David's death. This has had terrible consequences for the family David left behind.

Mr Cornock's experience is not unique and I know Members have constituents across Scotland who have similarly been denied justice.

I would ask the Committee to refer back to the oral contributions I have made to the Committee on 15th May 2024, 2nd April 2025 and 12th November 2025, and considers keeping open this petition.

Mr Cornock's tireless campaigning on this issue means it has stayed in the public interest. His tragic and heart-breaking experience has shown that the current legislation, Fatal Accidents & Sudden Deaths etc (Scotland) Act 2016, is failing Scottish families. He has shown that Scottish residents have less protection in the law than those in England and Wales.

I give my continued support to Mr Cornock's petition.